



# RATT PUBLICATIONS

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*Genealogical Institute*

*Master Accreditation of the Genealogical Institute*

## **"Hotel GEDCOM"**

BY

*Floyd Thomas Pratt, F.H.C., M.A.G.I.*

© 2008, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2011, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition 2014

*M.A.G.I.* Course #3 educates the student to the historical origins of the Genealogical Data Communication aka, GEDCOM capabilities of various computer programs. Using a unique analogy to explain the process of creating, exporting and importing these files, Mr. Pratt offers an easy and humorous method through this learning process.

*Floyd Thomas Pratt, F.H.C., M.A.G.I.*

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**"BEHOLD, I WILL SEND YOU ELIJAH THE PROPHET BEFORE THE COMING OF THE GREAT AND DREADFUL DAY OF THE LORD: AND HE SHALL TURN THE HEART OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE HEART OF THE CHILDREN TO THEIR FATHERS, LEST I COME AND SMITE THE EARTH WITH A CURSE. MALACHI 4:5-6**

# *Genealogical Institute's Master Accreditation Course*

## **COURSE LESSON #3 " Hotel GEDCOM "**

by *Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.* © 2011 revised 2014

**GENEALOGY WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION...IS MYTHOLOGY**

### **OBJECTIVE**

To acquaint the researcher with the understanding of the GEDCOM capabilities of computer programs. To teach the proper procedures when saving, converting and creating genealogical files for use in various programs...especially for use in Family Search.

### **The HOTEL GEDCOM**

You are walking along the street and you see this huge hotel with a flashing marquee.

### **HOTEL GEDCOM...WE SELL GENEALOGY PROGRAMS**

You are in the market for a genealogy program so you enter the lobby and you see a clerk at the desk. You ask him what does he have available? He points to a chart on the wall, which reads...

Various Genealogy Programs	Program Extensions
On the 1 <sup>st</sup> floor Family Search aka Personal Ancestral File 5.20	Master Key. <b>paf</b>
On the 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Family Tree Maker 7.0	Master Key.ftw
On the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor Generations Family Tree 6.0	Master Key.uds
On the 4 <sup>th</sup> floor Family Tree Legends 6.0	Master Key.ftl
On the 5 <sup>th</sup> floor The Master Genealogist (Silver)	Master Key. <b>tmg</b>
On the 6 <sup>th</sup> floor Roots Magic 3.2.5	Master Key.rmg
On the 7 <sup>th</sup> floor Legacy 8.0	Master Key.fdb

He informs you, you can purchase any one of these floors (programs) but the master key of that floor **will only work on the floor you purchase.**

After discussing the various features, price and ease of use, you decide to start with the 1<sup>st</sup> floor free program known as "**P**ersonal **A**ncestral **F**ile 5.2" and he gives you the master key.**paf**.

You go to the elevator and after stepping inside you notice your elevator buttons are numbered 1 to 7 floors only. You insert your key in the lock and the elevator automatically takes you to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor or the PAF program floor.

When you arrive on the first floor, you see an endless row of doors to rooms on both sides of the hall. You walk up to the 1<sup>st</sup> door on the left and you notice there is a nameplate on the door but no name on the nameplate. You insert your master key into the lock and the intercom speaker in the hall asks you what would you like to name that room? (this is known as labeling a file)

You say, "This will be my Green Master Family". The nameplate on the door now reads "**Green Master Family.paf**". You have just named your first family genealogy file and you can now put all your Green Family information into that room.

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You start inputting your Green Family boxes of information into the room and the room starts to organize your data. It connects your ancestors into family group sheets, pedigree charts, notes and documentation sections and even multimedia collections. You are very pleased and after you are done, you close your door and your door automatically locks and the nameplate says **Green Master Family.paf**.

You get on the elevator and before you decide to go to the lobby, you put your key in the lock and you press the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor button to see what happens, the elevator intercom announces, "Sorry first floor only". The elevator automatically takes you to the lobby and you leave the hotel.

### **EXPERIMENTING...**

After dinner, you decide to go back to the "**HOTEL GEDCOM**" and you enter the elevator and you insert your key and the elevator automatically takes you right to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

In fact, every time you get on the elevator, the elevator door will open to the last room you visited when you were there before. You now want to open another room (file) with a different name so you go to the 2<sup>nd</sup> door on the first floor and you name the room Jones Master Family. The door now reads **Jones Master Family.paf** and you begin to put your Jones family information into the room. (file)

You get a phone call from a friend on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor or the Master Genealogist program floor and they want to send you a nameplate, **Adams Master Family.tmg** so you can see the information they have on their Adams Family. They inform you they will leave the nameplate in the lobby with the clerk.

Upon arriving in the lobby, you converse with the clerk and he informs you a nameplate was delivered for you by way of a floppy disk, flash drive or email. You take your friend's nameplate and you go to the elevator and you insert your master key (.paf) in the lock and you press the 5<sup>th</sup> floor button. The intercom informs you, you are only authorized to use the 1<sup>st</sup> floor or the PAF program.

You go to the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and you find a door with no nameplate and you put your friend's nameplate, **Adams Master Family.tmg** on the door and you insert your master key into the lock and the hallway intercom announces, "**Access denied, incompatibility**".

Confused, you return to the lobby and you inform the clerk there maybe something wrong with your floor. You relate your difficulty to him and he examines your friend's nameplate, **Adams Master Family.tmg** and informs you, your friend's nameplate will not work with anyone who has the 1<sup>st</sup> floor program or PAF or any other program, except the 5<sup>th</sup> floor program.

He further states only the rooms ending with a **.paf** will work on your floor. And only the master key that ends with a **.tmg** will work on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, otherwise known as The Master Genealogist program.

You ask the clerk how can you get your friend's nameplate to work so you can read it and the contents in his room. (file)



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### **INTRODUCING THE GEDCOM FILE...**

He informs you there are two ways to accomplish this, one; you must purchase the 5<sup>th</sup> floor program in order to have that master key **.tmg** or two; you must convert your friend's nameplate, **Adams Master Family.tmg** to **Adams Master Family.paf** to work on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

He states anyone who has purchased one of the floors (programs) can only use their master key to see other rooms (files) from the **same** floor or program. You cannot share information from floor to floor without purchasing each floor (program)...unless you convert.

You ask him, how do I convert? He states there are two special doors on your 1<sup>st</sup> floor called GEDCOM IMPORT and GEDCOM EXPORT. You ask what is the GEDCOM? He says, "Oh what a wonderful part of your floor (program). Let me share with you the history of the GEDCOM.

In early 1986 the computer programmers at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints had invented a new program for organizing, recording, copying, printing and saving family history information called **Personal Ancestral File (PAF) 1.0**.

The 1.0 meant it was the first version released to the public for use. Up until that time, there really wasn't any standard type of program that helped church members to prepare their families for temple ordinances.

This new program was light-years ahead of other genealogical programs and immediately became a big hit in the family history research field.

As each year passed, new revisions came from the Church enhancing the program with additional features with the release of 2.0, 2.2 and 2.3 until now in 2008 the current version is 5.2.

With the release of the 2.0 version, came a new feature called **Genealogical Information Exchange**, which was, coined GEDCOM, an acronym that stands for **GE**nealogy **D**ata **COM**munications.

In short, GEDCOM is the language by which different genealogy software programs talk to one another. The purpose is to exchange data between dissimilar programs without having to manually re-enter all the data on a keyboard."

You ask the clerk, "Where can I get this GEDCOM feature?" He says, "There are two special rooms where you can go on your floor (program) that will convert a nameplate from another floor to allow you to read any floor (program) in the hotel or receive and view any rooms (files) you like...if it is properly prepared by the sender."

He goes on and says, "Each of the modern day genealogy programs has the ability to export (send by disk, email, flash drive) or import a GEDCOM file that someone else has created on their floor into your program."

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### ***GENEALOGY WITHOUT DOCUMENTATION...IS MYTHOLOGY***

You ask him, "How do I import my friend's nameplate; **Adams Master Family.tmg**, which was created on their Master Genealogist 5<sup>th</sup> floor?"

He replies, "First you ask your friend to take the nameplate from the **Adams Master Family.tmg** door, to their **GEDCOM EXPORT** door on their floor and using **their** master key (**.tmg**), enter the room with the nameplate (file) from the door in which they want to convert and follow the directions after they push the **export** button.

The intercom will ask what they want to export; what names, what data, what type of export file, and after they choose who and what they want to share with you, the Gedcom even asks you to rename your new nameplate or it will make a new nameplate, in your friend's case called **Adams Master Family.ged**, short for gedcom.

After the conversion is complete, the original nameplate, i.e., **Adams Master Family.tmg** automatically goes back to the original door and your friend sends you the new nameplate; **Adams Master Family.ged** by either email, disk or flash drive.

They can send the newly created **Adams Master Family.ged** to other friends, family, online genealogical programs like rootsweb.com, ancestry.com, familytree.com and many others to share with whomever they like.

When you have a family file *you* wish to upload into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints..."New Family Search" (<https://familysearch.org>) program you must first convert your file into a GEDCOM file, which has an extension of **.ged** before you can start working in the New Family Search program with your people from that file."

"It all sounds complicated" you proclaim, "Not at all", he says. "Once you do it a few times it gets to be easy and old hat. Ok, how do I convert my friend's new nameplate, **Adams Master Family.ged** so my 1<sup>st</sup> floor PAF can read it?"

"Glad you asked, after receiving their nameplate you go to your door on the 1<sup>st</sup> .paf floor named, **GEDCOM IMPORT**. Using your master key.paf program you enter and you will see a button called GEDCOM Import or just import. Follow the instructions by telling the intercom where you have your friend's new nameplate stored and press the import button.

Sometimes the intercom will ask you if you want to add your friend's information to your existing **Adams Master Family.paf** file or make a new nameplate. If you want to add your friend's information to your existing file then choose that action.

If you want to make a new (recommended) file choose that action and the Gedcom room will automatically make a new **Adams Master Family.paf** nameplate. Caution; don't name the new file the same as any files you have already named because the new file will erase your old file. Give the new file a **different** name.

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You take your nameplate to a vacant door and after placing the nameplate on the door; using your master key. **paf** you walk in and read your friend's family files or data. This saves a tremendous amount of retyping and is an easy way to transfer information between floors or programs."

You thank him and proceed to follow his instructions. [End of analogy]

### **GOOD LUCK...**

Congratulations, hopefully you now understand the history and background of GEDCOM files and the procedures for exporting and importing to and from your computer.

Once you have created a family gedcom file from any genealogical program you are using, you can "upload" it to the New Family Search program or any other program, like ancestry.com.

Be aware, if you already have that information in your Family Search file, then you will have many duplicates to combine before you will be happy with your results.

When in Family Search, always check the duplicate section in the left column of your ancestor's data to verify if temple work is really needed or has already been done. This will save you countless hours of research and unnecessary waste of time.

Check the ancestry.com or the rootsweb.com or many other sites for information about your ancestors to see if anyone else has done research on your family. Many people, who may not be members of the church have devoted years of research to their families.

If you are successful in finding information, this may be helpful or in the least...steer you in the right direction. However, I have found 95% of the data on the Internet is unverified and undocumented. But, after all, isn't that your job...to verify and validate information about your ancestors? I mean, isn't that half the fun?

No other organization in the world offers a more comprehensive family history-training program than the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The most professional family history researchers in the world can be found within the membership records of this church.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is the only authorized body in the world that administers temple ordinances for deceased ancestors. To this end, it is desired that **all** of the human family be offered the eternal blessings of the temple...regardless of mortal or spiritual existence.

*Floyd Thomas Pratt M.A.G.I.* 2008  
revised 2011, revised 2014

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### **The HOTEL GEDCOM Key**

Hotel Gedcom	Various commercial markets selling genealogical programs.
Elevator	Opening the actual program. (Double-clicking on the icon)
Floors	One particular genealogical program with an inclusive file extension.
Master Key	Program access to files assigned to a particular genealogy program.
Rooms	Files where genealogical data is kept.
Door Nameplates	Actual file name including extension. (.paf)
Intercom	Program prompts, asking for directions or informing of acceptable procedures.
Gedcom Export Room	Heading in genealogical program to export (upload) data for conversion to gedcom.
Gedcom Import Room	Heading in genealogical programs to import (download) gedcom-converted data others have created.



# Pedigree Chart for Floyd Thomas "Tom" Pratt F. H. C., M. A. G. I. by Floyd Thomas Pratt F.H.C., M.A.G.I.

4	Columbus B A Pratt	b. 1 December 1893 p. Hamilton Hollow, Johnson ~ m. 12 April 1919 p. Bourbon, Boone Twp, Craw~ d. 27 July 1947 p. Bourbon, Boone Twp, Craw~	8	Henry Winslow "Win" Pratt	b. 6 September 1869 p. near Osage Post Office, J~ m. 29 January 1893 p. Vilander, Liberty Twp, Craw~ d. 24 March 1914 p. near Crow's Creek, Boone~	16	Alexander "Alex" R. Pratt	b. March 1831 d. 1912	32	Henry Pratt	b. 1800-1803
2	Floyd Theodore "Ted" Pratt	b. 6 January 1927 p. near Bourbon, Boone Twp, Crawford~ m. 1 March 1947 p. Saint Clair, Central Twp, Franklin, M~ d. p.	9	Mary L M Missé Missey	b. 20 February 1874 p. Johnson Twp, Washington~ d. 17 April 1938 p. Bourbon, Boone Twp, Craw~	17	Mary Kimberlin	b. 1835 d. 1876-1880	34	Rhinehart E. Kimberlin	b. 1805
5	Rue Flavilla Johnson	b. 19 March 1894 p. Bourbon, Boone Twp, Craw~ d. 26 June 1983 p. Briarwood Manor Nursing ~	10	Judge J M Johnson Sr.	b. 29 September 1854 p. Moselle, Central Twp, Frank~ m. 14 May 1884 p. Liberty Twp, Crawford, Mis~ d. 21 May 1941 p. Bourbon, Boone Twp, Craw~	18	François C Missé Missey	b. 5 July 1845 d. 26 April 1916	36	Jean B Missé Missey	b. 28 May 1821
1	Floyd T Pratt F. H. C., M. A. G. I.	b. 3 January 1948 p. City Hospital #1, 1515 Lafayette Av~ m. 14 August 1972 p. Tyler Place United Presbyterian Ch~ d. p. sp. Bonnie Kathleen Bach	11	Mary Jane T Barton	b. 18 January 1861 p. near Pine Mountain Post Of~ d. 10 June 1913 p. Walnut Street, Bourbon Vil~	19	Cynthia N. Talbot	b. 3 April 1848 d. 28 March 1896	38	Benjamin "Ben" Talbott	b. 15 June 1811
6	Peter Conley Brown	b. 12 January 1893 p. Sharon, Weakley, Tennes~ m. 16 March 1924 p. Dyer, Tennessee, United S~ d. 3 December 1972 p. Halls, District #8, Lauderdale~	12	John A. Brown	b. May 1844 p. Perry, Tennessee, United ~ m. 18 November 1891 p. Dresden, Weakley, Tenne~ d. 31 July 1928 p. Nashville, Hermitage, Davi~	20	Martin Johnson	b. 22 March 1805 d. 27 September 1859	40	Benjamin Johnson	b. 31 March 1775
3	Delores "Doe" Virginia Brown	b. 31 October 1925 p. City Hospital #1, 1515 Lafayette Av~ d. 1 March 1981 p. Queen of Angels Hospital, 2301 Bel~	13	Obedience "Bedie" Lackey	b. 6 February 1871 p. near District 8 Post Office, ~ d. 14 January 1924 p. Western State Hospital, Bol~	21	Comfort Osborn	b. 10 June 1814 d. 26 April 1877	42	William Osborn	b. 4 July 1777
7	Olga Elmira O'Daniel	b. 11 March 1907 p. Island 21, Dyer, Tennessee~ d. 7 October 1993 p. Los Angeles, Los Angeles~	14	James Leonidas O'Daniel	b. 15 December 1869 p. near Rutherford Post Offic~ m. 22 May 1897 p. Dyer, Tennessee, United S~ d. 8 March 1921 p. Baird-Dulaney Hospital, Dy~	22	William "Billy" Barton	b. 20 November 1831 d. 7 January 1922	44	John Milton Barton	b. 1799
			15	Daisy Dean Bell	b. 7 September 1881 p. District #19, Walnut Grove~ d. 14 May 1920 p. Jackson Crossing, Civil Dist~	23	Harriet King	b. 23 July 1834 d. 3 February 1920	46	Rev. Jonathan King	b. 20 December 1800
						24	Joseph Brown Jr.	b. 1827 d.	48	Joseph Brown Sr.	b. 1785
						25	Catherine	b. 1825 d.	50		b.
						26	William Stevenson Lackey	b. 20 October 1822 d. 7 July 1893	52	Enos Lackey	b. 1797
						27	Nancy Basket Moseley	b. 11 October 1827 d. 20 September 1875	54		b.
						28	Stephen C. O'Daniel	b. 5 December 1812 d. 1881	56	Alexander O'Daniel Sr.	b. Abt 1749
						29	Elizabeth Ellen Gordon	b. 1840 d. 1872	58	John Gordon	b. 1813
						30	John Franklin "Frank" Bell	b. 1 July 1850 d. 1892-1893	60		b.
						31	Hettie M. Jackson	b. 16 December 1861 d. 19 April 1902	62	Alexander Jackson	b. 1840

## A Little Something About Your Author.....

*Floyd Thomas Pratt, F.H.C., M.A.G.I.*



At the age of 19, Tom Pratt embarked on a career in law enforcement. This experience gave him training in detective and investigative skills. Little did Mr. Pratt know, how useful these skills would be in the field of genealogy.

Tom Pratt started his family research career in 1975 after becoming a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. His first calling as a new member was to serve in the newly created genealogical department or known today as the Family History Center in the Springfield, Missouri ward. This two-year calling gave Mr. Pratt a tremendous amount of experience helping others to research their families.

In fact, he felt family research came easy and required little effort on his part. In reality, years of reading and studying increased his expertise and he made it look easy to others.

Over the course of several years, Mr. Pratt was asked by his church to instruct several family history courses. This experience established a deep profound love for family and ancestors.

It was not uncommon for Mr. Pratt to spend 4 to 8 hours a day researching and compiling family histories in addition to his duties, as an entrepreneur in the insurance business.

The first major achievement for Mr. Pratt was a breakthrough on his Pratt family back to the early 1800's. Not satisfied with just the direct line research, Mr. Pratt branched out to research all connected lines and allied families.

This dedication led to 42,000 individuals and achieved expert status for Mr. Pratt on the families of middle and eastern Missouri, eastern and western Tennessee and central North Carolina.

Concerning Mr. Pratt's style of research, he is a strong supporter of the "hands on" approach. When he took family vacations, they usually went to libraries, cemeteries, courthouses, National Archive centers, and visited family members in various states. He attended multi-state family reunions and obtained his material from the actual sources when possible.



# A Little Something About Your Author.....

Being a researcher of the highest degree, in 1991, Mr. Pratt formed the Pratt Publications Company and offered to the public, a series of books titled, The Pratt Progenitor Papers. This series of volumes are a collection of legal documents, stories, pictures and historical presentations concerning the families of Missouri, Tennessee and North Carolina.

The first three Volumes were released to the public in 1991 and were issued to 18 different libraries including the Library of Congress and the St. Louis Public Library. The next 7 volumes were published with at total of 43 volumes scheduled for publication.

In 1996, Mr. Pratt formed the Genealogical Institute to further the education of serious researchers.

The Genealogical Institute offers a series of educational materials to teach and instruct the uninitiated in the procedures of family history research. These courses offer "a hands on" curriculum designed to instruct in investigative, deductive reasoning and logical procedures for tracking your family history.

Beginners and experienced researchers have found a treasure chest of knowledge when undertaking these courses. Mr. Pratt has taken the hobby of genealogy and has enhanced it into a science. Heavy on instructions concerning documentation, research procedures, alternative sources and common public records, this course is a valuable tool for the researcher. One of Mr. Pratt's favorite sections of the course is teaching researchers "how to stop" researching and compile their information for publication.

Upon completion of the educational courses from the Genealogical Institute, the graduate is awarded the **Master Accreditation of the Genealogical Institute. (M.A.G.I.)**

This designation is equivalent to a Doctorate Degree and signifies the recipient has been trained and demonstrated superior research techniques.

Mr. Pratt's ability in family history research has amazed many educated researchers. When Mr. Pratt is asked for help concerning their "brick wall" in their family research, his quick wit and logical mind rapid fires instructions and procedures so fast they cannot write the material quickly enough. Little do they realize this knowledge has been acquired over 30 years of experience and research.

In June of 2000, Mr. Pratt undertook a new and unprecedented task.

Outside of Washington, Franklin County, Missouri is an old cemetery called the Johnson-Caldwell Cemetery. This cemetery has many pioneer heroes and ancestors of various descendants from that region. Some of the inhabitants were born in the 1750's and traveled west to Missouri after the 1803 Louisiana Purchase.

# A Little Something About Your Author.....

Mr. Pratt took down all the information off the headstones, including every person in the cemetery and researched each individual related or not. 1000 man-hours and two years later, he published the book "Johnson-Caldwell Cemetery of Franklin County, Missouri"© 2001.

Obtaining newspapers, legal documents, personal interviews with ancestors and researching various sources for any and all information concerning the history of the cemetery and the inhabitants produced this master text. What makes this book stand out among the rest is basic content and structure.

First, it is the only book to cover the known and reported inhabitants of an entire cemetery.

Second, this book reports on each inhabitant, their birth and activities throughout their life until their death, including their ancestors, spouses and children.

Third, even the index is unique, listing the individual and their father's name if known. This is extremely helpful when several individuals have the same given name.

Upon examination, professional researchers have hailed this body of work as a masterpiece and a standard in which all future research of cemeteries should be based. In their opinion, no one has ever produced a body of work about a cemetery as unique and professional as this publication.

Currently, Mr. Pratt is working on a series of books from the [Pratt Archive Collections](#), which is a series of biographical publications concerning a progenitor and a generation of descendants. This collection is a "cradle to grave" report, which covers the subject's ancestry, birth, marriage, children, and geographical domiciles as well as the political environment during the subject's lifetime.

In addition, Mr. Pratt is working on additional volumes of the Pratt Progenitor Papers and several books on public records.

With all these accomplishments, Mr. Pratt humbly refers to himself as a Genealogical Anthropologist...resurrecting progenitors.

We in the genealogical world are deeply grateful to be associates of a man of Mr. Pratt's caliber. Through his dedication to helping the novice as well as the professional researcher, future generations will benefit by his advances in the genealogical field.

In addition, we are thankful for the inspiration that sparks men like Mr. Pratt to magnify their love for people and history. We feel, with a lifetime dedicated to the genealogical pursuit of truth and knowledge, Mr. Pratt's accumulative body of work, will stand as a quintessential manifestation of this divine love.

Lewton Cole, Chairman  
**Genealogical Institute**



# GENEALOGY ETIQUETTE

1. Do not give copies or reproduce the information you received from the compiler or author without written permission.
2. In your research efforts if you are able to advance the research, then reciprocate by sharing your research information with the compiler.
3. Use the information you receive as a starting point for your research of your families.
4. If you decide to use information you have received, in a book, document or research material, be sure to acknowledge the author or compiler of that material.
5. All inquiries by third parties for a copy of the material should be forwarded to the original compiler or author.
6. Do not loan or share your information, family heirlooms, special documents, one of a kind, pictures, or irreplaceable materials to non-professional researchers or family members. These types of materials seen to disappear or become damaged.
7. Make copies of important documents or materials when at libraries and be sure to write the name of the book, source, letter or film with the author's name and page number and year of publication.
8. Genealogy work that is not documented is of little value. Remember, you are leaving a trail for those who follow. If future researchers have to verify your work, then of what value is your work?
9. Collect family stories from those relatives who are still alive. This is a short cut to your past and they hold a world of knowledge about your family.
10. Do not try to finance all your research alone. Ask for financial assistance from interested family members.

Remember, the family history information that is so easily exchanged today by computer was acquired over years and years of on-site research. While many were engaged in raising families, working for income, and surviving, genealogist researchers did these things **AND** spent their free time in pursuit of the truth about their ancestors. This pursuit required great sacrifice of time, effort and money. Many researchers went to the actual locations to view the marriage, deed, death and birth records including visiting the cemeteries across the United States and foreign countries. This is why it is important to follow the above guidelines; by doing so, you give respect to their work and honor to their memory. Thank You.

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